GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2198
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
JOINT ANTI TERROR MECHANISM
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan has set up a joint anti-terror mechanism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for joint military operations with Pakistan against terrorism in Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a-b) Yes. During the meeting of PM with President Musharraf in Havana on 16 September 2006, both sides decided to put in place an India-Pakistan anti-terrorism institutional mechanism to identify and implement counter-terrorism initiatives and investigations. The Joint Anti-terrorism Mechanism met on 6-7 March 2007 in Islamabad. At this meeting, both sides agreed that specific information will be exchanged through the mechanism for helping investigations on either side related to terrorist acts and prevention of violence and terrorist acts in the two countries. It was also agreed that while the Anti-terrorism Mechanism would meet on a quarterly basis, any information which is required to be conveyed on priority basis would be immediately conveyed through the respective Heads of the Mechanism.

(c) No.

(d)-(e) Do not arise.